

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 061243
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER:JFC
APPROVED BY NEA/ARN -MR.DRAPER
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 061243

STADIS/////////////////////////////////
EXDIS, FOR AMBASSADOR FROM NEA/ARN DRAPER

C O R R E C T E D COPY (PARA 4 OMITTED)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, SY

SUBJECT: VISIT OF RABBI HECHT

REF: DAMASCUS 1483

1. RABBI HECHT IS NOW PLANNING ON AN ARRIVAL DATE OF
APRIL 24 VIA PAN AM. HIS GROUP WILL NUMBER BETWEEN 20 AND
25. FORTY PERCENT WILL HAVE BLOOD RELATIVES IN SYRIA,
MOSTLY IN ALEPPO. ALL MEMBERS, HOWEVER, ARE OF SYRIAN
JEWISH EXTRACTION BUT, OTHER THAN THE FORTY PERCENT MEN-
TIONED, MEMBERS WILL NOT NECESSARILY HAVE LIVING RELATIVES
IN SYRIA OF WHOM THEY ARE AWARE. SOME MEMBERS OF THIS GROUP
WERE BORN IN SYRIA; SOME LEFT ILLEGALLY AND BECAME AMERICAN
CITIZENS. VIRTUALLY ALL HAVE NAMES WHICH ARE FAMILIAR IN
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SYRIA.

2. RABBI HECHT THOROUGHLY AGREES THAT YOU COULD EXPLAIN TO
THE GOVERNMENT THAT THIS VISIT IN PART REPRESENTS A RESPONSE
TO ASAD'S SUGGESTION TO SOLARZ THAT FORMER COMMUNITY MEMBERS
COME BACK TO VISIT.

3. THE RABBI IS PLEASED WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS YOU ARE SEEKING.

4. HE IS PLANNING ON A TOTAL VISIT OF 8 DAYS. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 19-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS, STADIS
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